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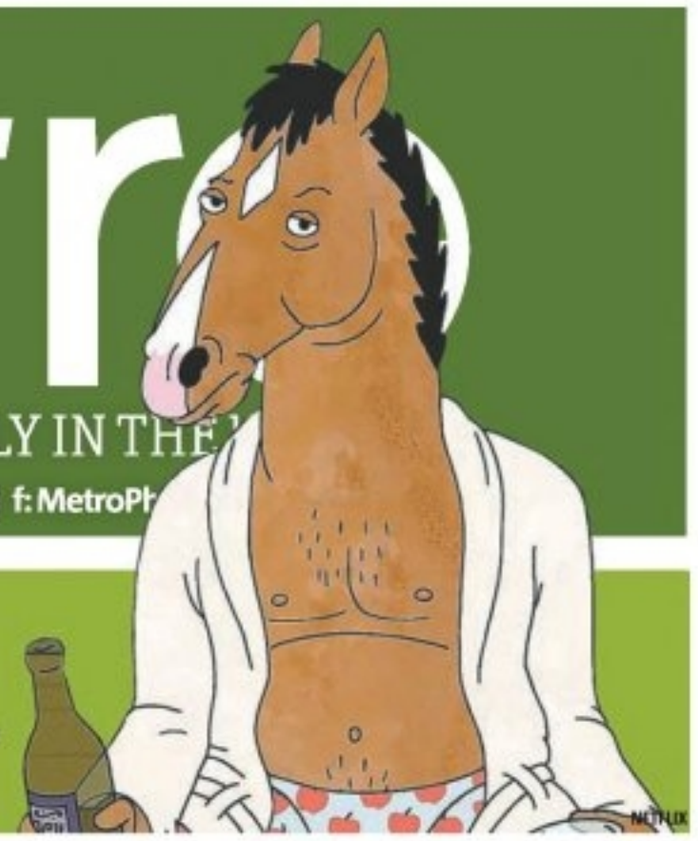
Cosby seeks judge's removal before sentencing. 4-5

FitzMagic, Bucs prove too much for Eagles. 16, 18

## 'BOJACK HORSEMAN'

Creator Raphael Bob-Waksberg ponders the series' future. 11



# DEVASTATION

At least 15 are dead, thousands remain without power, and rivers continue to rise as Hurricane Florence batters North Carolina. 6

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5 THINGS TO KNOW

## WELCOME TO METRO PHILLY

SAM NEWHOUSE, REPORTER

Bill Cosby may be down, but he's not out yet. The disgraced entertainer's legal team, ahead of his Sept. 24 sentencing date, is still fighting his conviction on charges of drugging and sexually assaulting a former Temple University employee at his Cheltenham mansion in 2004. Now they're saying the judge who oversaw his conviction needs to be recused from the case for not revealing a past feud, from 1998, with former Montco DA Bruce Castor, who testified on behalf of Cosby early in the criminal proceedings. Worse yet, they claim the feud was all over the judge's former mistress. If successful, the motion could reopen a whole can of legal worms. Get all the details inside and on **metrophilly.us.**

## 1 SUPER TYPHOON SLAMS INTO CHINA

A super typhoon made landfall in China's Guangdong on Sunday, the country's most populous province, after wreaking havoc in Hong Kong and Macau and killing potentially more than 50 people in the Philippines. Packing winds of more than 125 mph at its peak, tropical cyclone Mangkhut is considered the strongest to hit the region this year. Its strength outstripped that of Hurricane Florence, which achieved maximum sustained winds of 90 mph when it roared into North Carolina in the United States on Friday. The eye of Mangkhut, the Thai name for Southeast Asia's mangosteen fruit, skirted 62 miles south of Hong Kong but the former British colony was still caught in the typhoon's swirling bands of rain and gale-force winds. Hong Kong raised its highest No. 10 typhoon signal mid-morning as ferocious winds uprooted trees and smashed windows in office and residential buildings, some of which swayed in the gusts, residents said.

## 2 2 DEAD AFTER SUSPECTED OD AT AUSSIE MUSIC FEST

Two people died, a dozen more were hospitalized and hundreds others sought medical assistance after suspected drug overdoses at a music festival in Sydney, the police said. A 23-year-old man and a 21-year-old woman died on Saturday after collapsing at the Defqon.1 festival, the police said. Two of the 13 hospitalized people remain in critical condition, while about 700 sought assistance on-site. The police have charged 10 people with drug supply offences, including two teenagers who allegedly carried 120 capsules to the festival, held at the Sydney International Regatta Center. "I'm absolutely aghast at what has occurred, I don't want any family to go through the tragedy that some families are waking up to this morning, it's just horrible to think about," the premier of New South Wales, Gladys Berejiklian, said. "This is an unsafe event and I'll be doing everything I can to make sure it never happens again," she added. In 2013 and 2015, two men in their 20s died while attending the festival, both of suspected drug overdose.

## 3 ROCK 'N' ROLL PHILADELPHIA HALF MARATHON

Runners cross the start line of the 2018 Rock 'n' Roll Philadelphia Half Marathon at Eakins Oval, Fairmont Park, on Sunday.

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## 4 2 FALL ILL IN RESTAURANT IN UK POISON ATTACK CITY

Two people fell ill on Sunday when eating in a restaurant in Salisbury, the English city where former Russian agent Sergei Skripal and his daughter Yulia were poisoned in March, police said. Police were called to the Prezzo restaurant in the evening in response to a "medical incident" involving a man and a woman, Wiltshire Police said in a statement. "As a precautionary measure, the restaurant and surrounding roads have been cordoned off while officers attend the scene and establish the circumstances surrounding what led them to become ill," it said. Britain has said Russian officers used the nerve agent Novichok to attack the Skripals. The Kremlin has denied any involvement. Police have said a nerve toxin had been left on the front door of the Skripals' home. They were found slumped in Salisbury city center after visiting Prezzo and another Italian restaurant, Zizzi. The former Russian spy and his daughter survived the murder attempt, but an unconnected woman, Dawn Sturgess, died in July and her partner Charlie Rowley fell ill after Rowley found a perfume bottle containing the same nerve agent.

## 5 SWISS STUDY ALLEGED CYBERATTACK ON WADA

Swiss prosecutors are investigating whether Russian agents tried to hack the World Anti-Doping Agency, the Office of the Attorney General said on Saturday, broadening the scope of alleged espionage against institutions in Switzerland. Criminal proceedings were launched in March 2017 on suspicion of political espionage, the OAG said in a statement. "As part of these proceedings the OAG, in cooperation with the Federal Intelligence Service, was able to identify two individuals," it said. "The aforementioned criminal proceedings ... refer to criminal proceedings being conducted by the OAG due to a cyber-attack against the World Anti-Doping Agency," it added. The OAG said the individuals concerned were the same pair identified by the Swiss intelligence service which on Friday said it had foiled a Russian plot targeting a Swiss laboratory used to test nerve agents such as Novichok. The OAG said it would give no further information on the case, which it has not revealed until now. Swiss media on Saturday said the WADA offices and International Olympic Committee in Lausanne had both been targeted.

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Judge Steven T. O'Neill of the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas. GETTY IMAGES

# Cosby wants judge booted just before sentencing

Judge Stephen T. O'Neill and key witness have bitter past.

SAM NEWHOUSE
sam.newhouse@metro.us

With his legacy in tatters and facing prison time on a sex assault conviction, Bill Cosby still has a few tricks up his sleeve and isn't going down without a fight.

The legal team for Cosby, 81, recently filed a motion demanding that Montgomery County Judge Steven T. O'Neill, who presided over Cosby's trial and conviction, recuse himself from the case, in part due to alleged bias because his wife is a a counselor for victims of sexual violence. But the motion is also based on new reports claiming that in 1998, he feuded with Montco DA Bruce Castor, a key witness for Cosby, while the two were competing for the DA's office.

According to Cosby's latest court papers, based on a report from celeb-gossip site Radar Online, at the time the two men were competing, O'Neill was separated from his wife — and his ex-girlfriend, Maureen Coggins (now a magisterial district judge) was a prosecutor in the Montco DA's office, where Castor worked as first assistant district attorney.

Radar claims Castor ordered Coggins to sit front row and center during the debate and wear a "Castor for DA" pin, which reportedly broke O'Neill's concentration and hurt his performance. Castor later got the GOP nomination for DA and went on to win the race.

Since that date, Cosby's lawyers claim, a "hostile and acrimonious" relationship has existed between the two, which they claim tainted Cosby's trial. (O'Neill, Coggins and Castor did not respond to requests for comment.)

"The court made no disclosures, at any time before, during or after the hearing, that the court had long been embroiled in a personal conflict with

# Accuser of Court nominee Kavanaugh goes public: WaPost

A woman who had anonymously accused U.S. Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh of sexual misconduct in the early 1980s decided to go public with her accusations and provided details of the alleged incident, the Washington Post reported on Sunday.

In an interview with the newspaper, Christine Blasey Ford said that as a high school student in suburban Maryland just outside of Washington, a "stumbling drunk" Kavanaugh pinned her to a bed, groped her and attempted to remove her clothing.

Last week, Kavanaugh said he "categorically and unequivocally" denies the allegations. The White House on Sunday did not immediately reply to a request for comment.

A spokesman for Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, responding to the latest developments in the Kavanaugh nomination, said, "It's disturbing that these uncorroborated allegations from more than 35 years ago, during high school,

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Disgraced entertainer Bill Cosby GETTY IMAGES

Mr. Castor that can only be described as nasty," wrote Cosby's current attorney, Joseph Green, in a motion for Judge O'Neill to recuse himself filed on Sept. 11. "The court could not possibly be impartial regarding Mr. Castor's credibility."

Prosecutors denounced the move as a stalling tactic ahead of Cosby's upcoming sentencing date.

"No stale tabloid report or legally baseless claim should stand in the way of sentencing in this matter," wrote prosecutors from Montgomery County DA Kevin Steele's office in their response. "Time has come for the defendant to face the consequences of his crimes and his misdeeds."

The role of former DA Castor is deeply intertwined with the Bill Cosby case. Castor was Montco DA from 2000 to 2008.

In 2005, he decided to not press charges against Cosby after Andrea Constand accused the aged entertainer of drugging and sexually assaulting her in his Cheltenham mansion in 2004.

In 2015, newly elected Montco DA Kevin Steele indicted Cosby for assaulting Constand, just days before the 10-year statute of limitations expired.

But the trial might never have gone forward if Judge O'Neill had not dismissed testimony from Castor that he and Cosby's lawyers made a "non-prosecution agreement" back in 2005.

Castor claimed that he had made a secret agreement, never memorialized in any court hearing or legal filing, with Cosby's former attorney Wally Phillips, who is now deceased. Castor later explained Constand was not a credible victim, so he bargained with Cosby's lawyers to not charge him if Cosby would agree to testify for a deposition in Constand's civil lawsuit — which Cosby settled for $3.4 million.

Judge O'Neill has yet to issue a ruling on the motion. Bill Cosby's sentencing remains scheduled to take place at Montgomery County Court in Norristown on Sept. 24.

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would surface on the eve of a committee vote."

Pressure on Republicans to delay Kavanaugh's confirmation mounted, but it is unclear whether Ford's decision to go public would hold up a Senate vote to confirm Kavanaugh.

Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer said the Senate Judiciary Committee "must postpone the vote until, at a very minimum, these serious and credible allegations are thoroughly investigated."

Democratic Sen. Diane Feinstein, the top Judiciary Committee Democrat, issued a statement on Sunday calling for a delay. REUTERS

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A Lumberton firefighter holds on to two nursing home patients as a member of the Cajun Navy drives his truck during the evacuation of a nursing home due to rising floodwaters in Lumberton, N.C., on Saturday in the wake of Hurricane Florence. ALEX EDELMAN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

# Florence delivers more drenching rains in eastern US

Florence drenched North Carolina with yet more rain on Sunday and officials warned residents that "the worst is yet to come" from a storm that has killed at least 14 people, as rivers inland were likely to flood.

Florence, which crashed into the state as a hurricane on Friday, had weakened to a tropical depression by Sunday morning but was forecast to drop another 5 to 10 inches of rain in North Carolina, bringing rainfall totals in some inland areas to 15 to 20 inches and even more in some places, according to the National Hurricane Center.

The most rain so far from Florence was 33.9 inches in Swansboro, N.C., a new record for a single hurricane in the state. The previous record was 24 inches, set by Hurricane Floyd, which killed 56 people in 1999, said Bryce Link, a meteorologist with private forecasting service DTN Marine Weather.

In North Carolina, more than 900 people were rescued from rising floodwaters and 15,000 remained in shelters, North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper told a news conference on Sunday.

**15K**
Remained in shelters.

At least 10 people have died so far in the storm in North Carolina, including a mother and child killed by a falling tree, state officials said. Four people died in South Carolina, including a woman whose car hit a fallen tree.

In Fayetteville, a North Carolina city of about 210,000 people some 90 miles inland, authorities told thousands of residents near the Cape Fear River and Little River to get out of their homes by Sunday afternoon because of the flood risk.

**"The worst is yet to come."**
**Mayor Mitch Colvin**

"If you are refusing to leave during this mandatory evacuation, you need to do things like notify your legal next of kin because the loss of life is very, very possible," Mayor Mitch Colvin said at a news conference on Saturday.

"The worst is yet to come," he added.

In Leland, a low-lying city north of Wilmington, homes and local businesses were engulfed by water on Sunday.

Gas stations were abandoned, with many pumps keeled over, and trees cluttered many roads, making them impassable. The whir of generators could be heard throughout the city, a sound not expected to dim soon as crews work to restore power.

About 756,000 homes and businesses were without power on Sunday in North and South Carolina and surrounding states, down from a peak of nearly 1 million.

Five people were arrested for breaking into a Dollar General Store, said the police department in Wilmington, which has imposed a nighttime curfew.

"This is still a catastrophic, life-threatening storm," said Zack Taylor, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service's Weather Prediction Center.

"It has already dumped 20 to 30 inches of rain on parts of the Carolinas, with more to come," he said. REUTERS

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# Costly Joint-Pain Injections Replaced By New $2 Pill

**New pill boosts the same lubricating joint fluid as expensive and painful injections - without using a needle. Users report dramatic relief from swelling, pain and stiffness without side effects and expense.**

**Health News Syndicate**

**HNS**—A popular needle injection for people with joint pain is now available in an inexpensive nonprescription pill. The breakthrough came when researchers discovered a way to deliver the injected "relief molecule" through the digestive system.

Top US clinics have used these needle injections for years because they deliver powerful relief. Unfortunately, the shots are painful and expensive. They also only work on the joint being treated.

The new pill, called Synovia, delivers the same "relief molecule" as the injections. However, it has some impressive advantages. First, it's inexpensive and nonprescription. Also, relief is delivered to every joint in the body because it enters the bloodstream through the digestive system.

This gives it the ability to reduce a much wider variety of pain. Users report greater flexibility and less stiffness in their knees. Hands and shoulders move pain-free for the first time in years. Even neck and lower back pain improve dramatically.

All this without spending over $600 on needle injections and taking trips to the doctor every week.

The medical community is very excited about this new breakthrough. Dr. Jacob Moss says, "Synovia is a great option for those suffering from joint pain. Injections are usually a last resort because of the pain and expense. However, Synovia should be taken at the first sign of discomfort."

### New Discovery

The needle injection procedure has been given to hundreds of thousands of patients over the last several years.

Doctors use the shots to boost a critical element of the joint called synovial fluid. This lubricating fluid is found between the cartilage and bones of every joint.

According to the firm's head of R&D, Mike McNeill, "Researchers have been working for years to find a way to boost this luid noninvasively. The problem was the molecule used in the injections was too large to absorb into the bloodstream."

Top scientists conquered this obstacle by finding a smaller form of the same molecule. This new glucose form is easily absorbed by your stomach and intestines!

Now those who suffer from joint pain can get relief without painful injections. At less than $2 per day, early users like Steve Young are impressed. He says, "I've tried more pills than I can count, without any luck. Synovia is different. My knees and hands haven't felt this good in years!"

### Impressive Clinical Results

Leading clinics use injection therapy because it works. Recent clinical trials show the pill form also delivers major relief.

One example is a landmark study out of Europe. In the study the active ingredient in Synovia was compared to a popular NSAID pain reliever. The goal was to see if it could reduce pain and swelling around the knee. The results were incredible!

After just 30 days, more than 8 out of 10 people who took Synovia's active ingredient had NO swelling. However, only 2 out of 10 people who took the NSAID experienced reduced swelling.

The study also looked at cases of severe swelling. Amazingly, zero cases of severe swelling were detected in the group taking the active ingredient found in Synovia. This means it was 100% effective for the cases of severe swelling!

In contrast, 9 out of 10 people taking the NSAID still had severe swelling. McNeill points out, "The impressive thing about this study is the active ingredient wasn't tested against a fake pill. It was up against one of the most popular NSAIDs people use every day. It's easy to see why people in pain are excited to get relief without an injection."

### The New Way It Delivers Relief

Getting relief without injections has big advantages. The most obvious is avoiding being stuck by a large needle every week for 5 weeks.

Another downside of injections is the doctor can "miss". The needle needs to be inserted into a precise spot in the joint to work. Otherwise, you risk the treatment being ineffective.

However, boosting your lubricating joint fluid by taking a pill delivers relief to all your joints, not just one.

There's an additional reason the active ingredient in Synovia works so well – it nourishes the cartilage.

McNeill says, "This is vital because cartilage does not have blood vessels. The fluid in the joint serves two very important pain-relief roles: lubrication and giving the cartilage the nutrients it needs."

**NO MORE NEEDLES:** A popular needle injection pain-killer for joint pain is being replaced. The key molecule in these injections can now be delivered by taking a new low-cost pill called Synovia.

### Approved By Leading Doctors

The new delivery system for this molecule has caught the attention of leading medical doctors.

"Needle injections for joint pain have been around for years because they work. Being able to get the same relief molecule through a pill is amazing. Injections may be a last resort, but I'd recommend Synovia at the irst sign of pain," said Dr. Marie Laguna.

Dr. Moss adds, "The research behind the active ingredient in Synovia is very exciting. This product is a great choice for those who haven't had success with other joint pain treatments."

### 110% Money Back Guarantee

Amazing feedback from users of Synovia has generated a wave of conidence at the company. So much so that they now offer Synovia with a 110% money back guarantee.

The company's president, Michael Kenneth says, "We've seen how well it works. Now we want to remove any risk for those who might think Synovia sounds too good to be true."

Simply take the pill exactly as directed. You must enjoy fast acting relief. Otherwise, return the product as directed and you'll receive 100% of your money back plus an extra 10%.

### How To Get Synovia

Today marks the official release of Synovia in Pennsylvania. As such, the company is offering a special discounted supply to everyone who calls within the next 48 hours.

A Regional Order Hotline has been set up for local readers to call. This is the only way to try Synovia with their "110% money back" guarantee.

Starting at 6:00 am today the order hotline will be open for 48 hours. All you have to do is call TOLL FREE 1-888-807-9203 and provide the operator with the special discount approval code: SYN18. The company will do the rest.

Current supplies of Synovia are limited, and callers that don't get through to the order hotline within the next 48 hours may have to pay more and wait until more inventory is produced. This could take as long as 6 weeks.

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STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

# Atlantic City gets schooled (again)

Stockton University's Atlantic City campus officially opens Thursday.

A.D. AMOROSI
letters@metro.us

When the Atlantic City campus of Stockton University finally cuts its ribbon on Thursday at its 3701 Boardwalk address, it may seem odd, at first, to that town's usual retinue of gamblers, carousers, revelers and casino habitués. That a hospitality, science and social-centric academic center of higher learning is opening along Jersey's busy, chance-inspired shoreline is no surprise, however, to Dr. Harvey Kesselman.

He's been this route before.

"I was really attracted at the start to the "Stockton Idea" that students would be actively involved with the faculty in their education and in their community," said Dr. Kesselman of a university with a main branch in nearby Galloway, N.J., and a curriculum focused on applied sciences, hospitality, tourism management, culture and more.

He should know. Now the university's president, Dr. Kesselman was, in actuality, part of Stockton University's debut freshman class in 1971, when that college was in Atlantic City, where the Mayflower Hotel stood, and with a school motto of "Plant Yourself Where You Can Grow."

"There were just 1,000 students," he said. "We were all together with the new faculty in that one building, starting something new and exciting that we alone would create. There was this sense of community and involvement that continues at Stockton to this day. The current mayor [Frank Gilliam], and city council president [Marty Small Sr.] in Atlantic City are both Stockton graduates."

When Stockton AC slices its ribbon in the Chelsea area (classes began Sept. 5 for its 1,300 students) it will mark the beginning of a new era for this town, one filled with even greater expansion as Stockton doubles down by readying to buy the nearby, beat-up Atlantic Club Casino Hotel at 3400 Pacific Avenue for greater office, dorm and classroom space. With the Atlantic Club's potential demolition and revitalization, one of the few remaining vacant casinos will be cleaned up and recontextualized for the present day.

**"There was this sense of community and involvement that continues to this day."**
**Dr. Harvey Kesselman**

"When we first discussed coming to Atlantic City from Galloway, and adding to that campus, there was a recession and serious issues with the casinos," said Diane D'Amico, Stockton's spokesperson. "Putting Stockton in Atlantic City was seen as a way to revitalize the city and diversify its economy, so that the town wasn't solely gaming- and hotel-based."

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# Wynnefield Wellness Day kicking off on September 22

Illuminated Hearts

**ASK ILLUMINATED HEARTS:**

*When it comes to our health, prevention goes a long way. In the spirit of community health and wellness, Illuminated Hearts, a Philadelphia home-care provider, will be hosting its annual Wynnefield Wellness Day on September 22. The free event will feature a number of free health screenings, as well as food, fun, entertainment and prizes.*

**What is Wynnefield Wellness Day?**

It's a community health event bringing together different organizations from across Philadelphia. We're excited to provide free information and resources for a variety of needs. There will also be a free outdoor barbecue and food for all, as well as free giveaway items and raffles to win prizes. Attendees can also expect live entertainment and appearances from local leaders, so it should be a really fun event.

**What inspired Illuminated Hearts to start this tradition?**

In partnership with Premier Urgent Care, we decided to start this event to connect with local residents and provide them with resources to improve their daily lives. It's a fun-filled event where people can come together, have a good time with their neighbors and community leaders, and receive free information.

**Why is it important for local businesses like Illuminated Hearts to participate in community health and wellness initiatives?**

We really believe in the power of keeping strong health top of mind within the community. Being a health care company, we see firsthand the value of providing resources that support a healthy community. During Wynnefield Wellness Day, we make it easy to have your blood pressure checked, blood sugar taken, and pulse-ox performed. There will also be medical staff available to provide general information about prevention, healthy living, and how to combat certain health conditions.

**Do I need to buy tickets?**

No! This event is **FREE and open to the public.** Just bring yourself and your family, and be ready to enjoy the festivities. Wynnefield Wellness Day will be held Saturday, September 22, 2018 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at 2231 Bryn Mawr Avenue (at the intersection of Bryn Mawr and Wynnefield Avenues).

You can learn more about everything Illuminated Hearts is doing in the community by visiting www.ICareForPA.com or calling (215) 921-6624.

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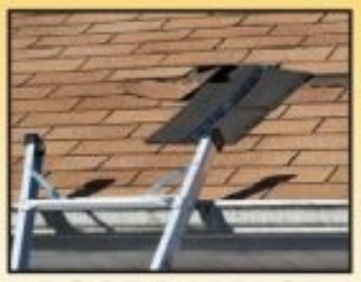
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**#0211 Jose Torres, #0526 Patrick Iorio, #0600 Thomas Taylor, #1101 Paul Miles, #1212 Dana Weiss, #1406 Richard Wurst, #1501 Timothy R. Hilsee, #2110 Judy Mabery, #2310 Stanley Simon, #1217 Raychalle Patterson, #0213 Nicholas J. Jaje**

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*Pat King*
*Grumble Editor*

# the GRUMBLE

ISTOCK

**READER WRITE-INS:**

**SPITTING ETIQUETTE**

It may sound like a gross oxymoron, but there is a lesser of evils as far as spitting/spreading germs goes. I do occasionally spit, but I always spit into the street where only car tires (not people's shoes) will touch it, thus not spreading whatever it is that is causing me to cough up chunks in the first place. Some people are so nasty or just stupid or both: They spit right where we all walk. Thus we all drag these germs into our workspaces and homes, etc., and touch them when we remove our shoes! So please spit your TB loogie into the street so the rest of us are not infected! Basic consideration!

— **"Fed Up" Chris,** *Metro New York reader*

Tell us what you think!

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**COVER YOUR MOUTH!**

My grumble is people who yawn and don't cover their mouths. Nobody wants to smell your stinking morning breath or your breath, period. I don't need to see how many cavities you have or how many back teeth you have that are missing. I feel like this goes hand-in-hand with coughing.

— **Cheray,** *Metro New York reader*

**VENT TO US!**
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Every day we will post a new photo and give you the chance to send in the funniest caption to go along with it. We'll publish the best caption the following day. Send us your best ideas to **@metronewyork @metroboston @metrophilly**

GETTY IMAGES

The winning caption from Vivian Masters, *Metro New York reader*

**TOMORROW'S PHOTO:**

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# metro.us/horoscopes

**Aries** Not everyone will see things your way. You'll get the most out of doing your own thing. Don't let others stand in your way or take advantage of you.

**Taurus** You'll be tempted to make a change, but before you do, figure out the best way to move forward. Preparation and attention to detail will ensure that you reach your goal.

**Gemini** An energetic approach to learning, and executing your plans with thought, integrity and caution will help you interest others in your dreams and plans.

**Cancer** It's OK to do things differently. In fact, you will draw positive attention that will boost your reputation and expand your circle of friends. Romance is on the rise.

**Leo** Not all change is good. Think before you launch something that could work against you. Don't let emotions be your guide when logic and practicality are what's required.

**Virgo** ake care of your responsibilities quickly so you can enjoy your day. Put more energy and thought into how you handle your finances and treat those you love.

**Libra** Avoid trouble by keeping busy and living up to your promises. Focus on self-improvement and what you can accomplish yourself instead of trying to change others.

**Scorpio** Keep your life simple. Don't take on something unrealistic that could lead to ill health or injury. Love who you are and concentrate on being your best.

**Sagittarius** Don't believe everything you hear. Consider the source of any information you receive. A scam or inaccurate instructions will turn out to be quite costly. It's OK to decline.

**Capricorn** Trust in yourself and make decisions based on experience. You will gain support if you make changes that will improve your environment at home or work.

**Aquarius** Alter your life for the right reason, not because someone else is making a change. Don't complicate matters by trying to be someone or something you're not.

**Pisces** Size up your situation and take the initiative to improve your life. You have everything to gain by trusting and believing in yourself and your attributes. EUGENIA LAST

# Raphael Bob-Waksberg ponders life for 'BoJack Horseman' after its fifth season

The creator of the acclaimed Netflix animated series talks about the new season, and whether a sixth is on the way.

ANDREW HUSBAND
letters@metro.us

BoJack Horseman season 5 is now streaming NETFLIX

Among the nearly 1,000 original programs that Netflix has produced and distributed in the past five years, Raphael Bob-Waksberg's animated dramedy "BoJack Horseman" reigns (and reins) supreme.

This largely due to the lengths that Bob-Waksberg and his writer's room will go to craft such heartfelt stories about things like depression, addiction and grief that are set in a cartoon world where people coexist with talking animals.

Of course, that's not to say that "BoJack Horseman" hasn't been plagued by its own problems. This is especially evident in the show's constant fight for renewal, for despite being a critical hit, Netflix always seems to wait until the last minute to order another season. Bob-Waksberg spoke to Metro about this, as well as whether or not he wants to keep making the show.

**How do you and everyone else in the writer's room approach the show's bigger themes?**
It usually comes from the stories we've told so far and where they've left us, and asking ourselves, "Where do we go from here?" Every season starts from a certain place. What is BoJack doing? Where has he been? Where is he going? We had suggested a certain trajectory of growth in the last four seasons, but it's not always in the correct direction. We've been inching toward a desire for redemption, for a kind of inner peace.

If we're really telling that story, or trying to be responsible with that story, and he's not there yet, then there are steps we need to take to help him get there. In other words, if we want to go lighter, then first we have to go darker. We're not out of the woods yet. It would be disingenuous to pretend that we were. There were more rock bottoms to hit before this character could really make the correct effort to start climbing out of the pit he had dug for himself.

**Balancing the amount of comedy and drama "BoJack" seems like quite the challenge.**
I think every writer brings something different to the table, which is what's nice about having a whole room. That's something that was very important to me from the beginning. I didn't just want writers who did what I do. For five seasons, we've had a really great staff from diverse backgrounds, all of them very different people with very different approaches to comedy and drama. That has been really helpful for writing all these characters, which helps "BoJack" be a very well-rounded show. It's never the same voice, over and over again.

**Now that season five is coming out, what are your plans for the future? Will you keep doing "BoJack" as long as Netflix and its fans want more of it?**
I'm always sure that every season is going to be the season that everyone turns on us, the season that we finally screw it up. Every year that doesn't happen, it only increases the pressure for the following year. Someday, I'll probably crack and walk away from the show because it's killing me, but maybe I'll wait until we get that eventual backlash. Though really, I'm going to keep making the show as long as I can.

I won't say as long as Netflix allows me to, because I don't know where I'm going be, or what I'm going to be going, in the future. But as long as I feel like the show has promise, and Netflix allows us to, it's a world that's still worth expanding. Our audience is still growing and I'm still excited by it. There might come a time when the show doesn't excite me anymore, but there are still lots of stories and relationships to explore. It hasn't gotten boring yet. There's a danger of it becoming boring for an audience, maybe before it becomes boring for me, but as long as they still enjoy it, and I still enjoy it, I'm going to keep making it.

**There's always the idea of quitting while you're ahead.**
Right, but again, there is still a lot of promise in "BoJack" for me. I'm still excited by it. If it ever got boring, I would walk away, especially if it felt like I was spinning my wheels. But it's a great setup, and I really love the people I work with. I don't know that I'm ever going to make a show like this again. This is my one opportunity to tell these kinds of stories and make these kinds jokes. Plus, it's a very large canvas. We've shown that we can tell all sorts of stories with all kinds of characters from different parts of society, and I would like to continue expanding it.

But we'll see what happens. You could be talking to me in six months, and I'll say, "Nope, it's done. Goodbye!" I don't know. Though I do feel comfortable saying that I don't think the fifth season is the last. I hope there are more, but we'll see.

*"BoJack Horseman" season five is now streaming on Netflix.*

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# Beau Willimon insists 'our human nature demands' we go to Mars

The "House of Cards" creator's new series "The First" revolves around the first manned mission to the planet.

GREGORY WAKEMAN
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There's an awful lot to admire about "The First."

There's the presence of Sean Penn, who plays one of the five astronauts chosen to be the first people to colonize Mars in the space epic, immediately makes anything worth watching. Then there's the sheer scale and size of the Hulu drama, which is matched by the meticulous and exquisite detail that has gone into making every little thing about "The First" feel authentic.

All of this combines to make viewers genuinely believe that a mission to Mars is on the periphery. That's because, according to "The First" creator Beau Willimon, it is.

We recently chatted with the "House of Cards" creator about "The First," during which time we asked if he believes we will ever make it to the Ped Planet.

"Yes, I do. I do," was his emphatic response. "Because at the heart of our story, even though we talk a lot about technology, is the human heart.

"I see a mission to Mars as an extension of humanity's desire to seek out themselves," Willimon adds. "It is just an extending case of the first man walking out of his cave and going, 'I wonder what is on the other end of that ridge?' That journey was just as vast and perilous as journey to Mars is for us."

GETTY IMAGES

Willimon is emphatic that it will happen because "our human nature demands that we go to Mars. It is just a matter of when.

"We are taking an optimistic approach to this and saying that it is possible that it could happen by the 2030s.

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**"I see a mission to Mars as an extension of humanity's desire to seek out themselves"**

And this is what it will look like," he says. "I hope it does happen by the 2030s. But no matter what I think, it will happen in many of our lifetimes. And when it does it will be a profound and very dramatic shift for our species."

Willimon openly admitted that taking a giant leap into the sci-fi genre with "The First" was "incredibly intimidating," especially because of the inevitable comparisons to the likes of "Alien" and "2001: A Space Odyssey," the latter of which he insists "goes beyond science fiction and is some of the best filmmaking ever done in any genre.

"You certainly aspire to reach those heights. But it is intimidating to make any television show. It is almost a miracle that television shows get made period," Willimon says. "Certainly when you are adding to that a layer of setting it in the near future and getting deeply technically involved in what a realistic mission to Mars will look like makes it doubly daunting."

"Luckily we had a great team of people, we did a ton of research, and that made it less daunting. The folks doing it in real life really helped make sure we got the story right," he adds. "Part of the draw of wanting to tell this story was that challenge and to learn about this stuff and do that deep dive."

*"The First" is now streaming on Netflix.*

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# 5 fun things to do this week

Jam out with Childish Gambino, go vegan, eat with the ex-mayor and more.

A.D. AMOROSI
letters@metro.us

Looking for fun, interesting things to do in Philly this week? We've got you covered with Ed Rendell, Childish Gambino, the debut of Philly Vegan Restaurant Week and more.

## Thomas is Titanic

Thomas Choinacky the man behind the SoLow Festival of solo and theatrical performance art shows presents a new, self-penned tale. The new tale "explores the secrets I kept from my family, which included my 'Titanic' and Kate Winslet obsessions and diving into imaginary worlds while ignoring the queerdo that I really was." This show is part of Simpatico Theatre Projectx's 4Solo event. *Sept 19 - 29. Times vary, Proscenium at the Drake, 302 S Hicks St. Pay what you can,fringearts.com*

Childish Gambino takes the stage this week. GETTY IMAGES

## Philly Vegan Restaurant Week

Surprisingly, this is our city's first dedicated restaurant week to all things vegan, veggie and plant-based. Fifteen restaurants offer three-course vegan meals with a portion of its proceeds donated to the local non-profit Peace Advocacy Network. *Sept. 17-22, times and locations vary, $35+, phillyvrw.com*

## Childish Gambino

While Donald Glover conquers the Emmys with "Atlanta" on FX and the film world with his take on Lando Calrissian for "Solo: A Star Wars Story," his sonic alter ego, Childish Gambino is ruling the airwaves. From hits like "This is America." This show is an event you will not want to miss. *Sept 18, 7:30 p.m., Wells Fargo Center, 3601 Broad St., $49-50+, wellsfargocenterphilly.com*

## Hercules & Love Affair

As far as old school, four-on-the-floor disco with a new school ambiance and smarmy worldview go, Hercules & Love Affair is your go-to soundtrack for dancing and griping. *Sept 19, 8 p.m. The Foundry at The Fillmore Philadelphia, 25 E. Allen St. $25, thefillmorephilly.com*

## PA Blue's Victory Fund "Blue Plate Special" fundraiser

Join one-time Mayor and Governor Ed Rendell on his culinary adventure with catering master Steve Poses and nearly 40 of the city's chefs, restauranteurs and distillers for fun, good food and funding. *Sept. 17, 7:30p.m., Franklin Institute, 222 N 20th St., $150+, pabluevictory.org*

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# How important is getting *positive feedback* in the workplace?

A study shows how important the words "good job" are to most workers

PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

We would all like to think that we are good at what we do. But how important is hearing that you have done a good job from your employer? A little validation of your efforts can make it all worthwhile at the end of a long workweek.

ISTOCK

**What motivates you at work?**

Recent research shows how important this can be for people who work remotely and in the office. The study — by Paul White, workplace-relationship psychologist, business consultant and author of "The 5 Languages of Appreciation in the Workplace" — surveyed 130,000 on-site and off-site employees around the country to see what motivated them the most when it came to their professional goals.

The study found that employees who work from home tend to be more independently driven, with only 38% of those polled placing value on positive validation from an employer. On the other hand, 48% of employees who work in the office consider validation from an employer motivating.

While affirmation from the boss may be more important to commuters, the study also concluded that off-site long distance employees value the camaraderie and companionship of their co-workers to gain validation.

The study shows that while only 25% of on-site employees place importance on having quality time with their co-workers to talk about work, 35% of remote workers value this kind of bonding time as something they need to feel validated at work.

That is why most remote employees prefer to have meetings over video-conference call rather than over the phone so that they can put a face to the people they work with everyday.

These are some important statistics employers should take note of to maintain good working relationships with their employees — on-site or remote.

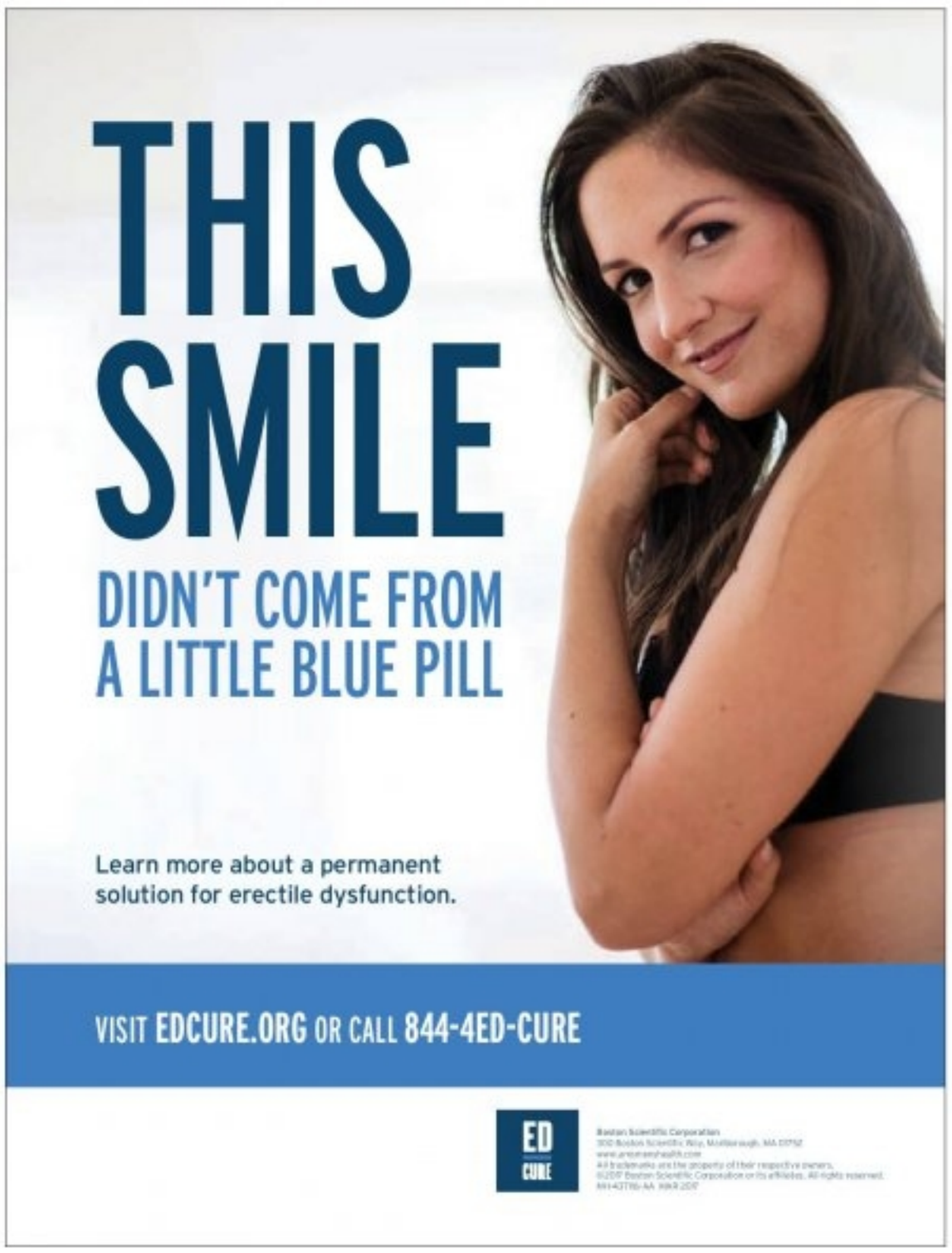
**48%**

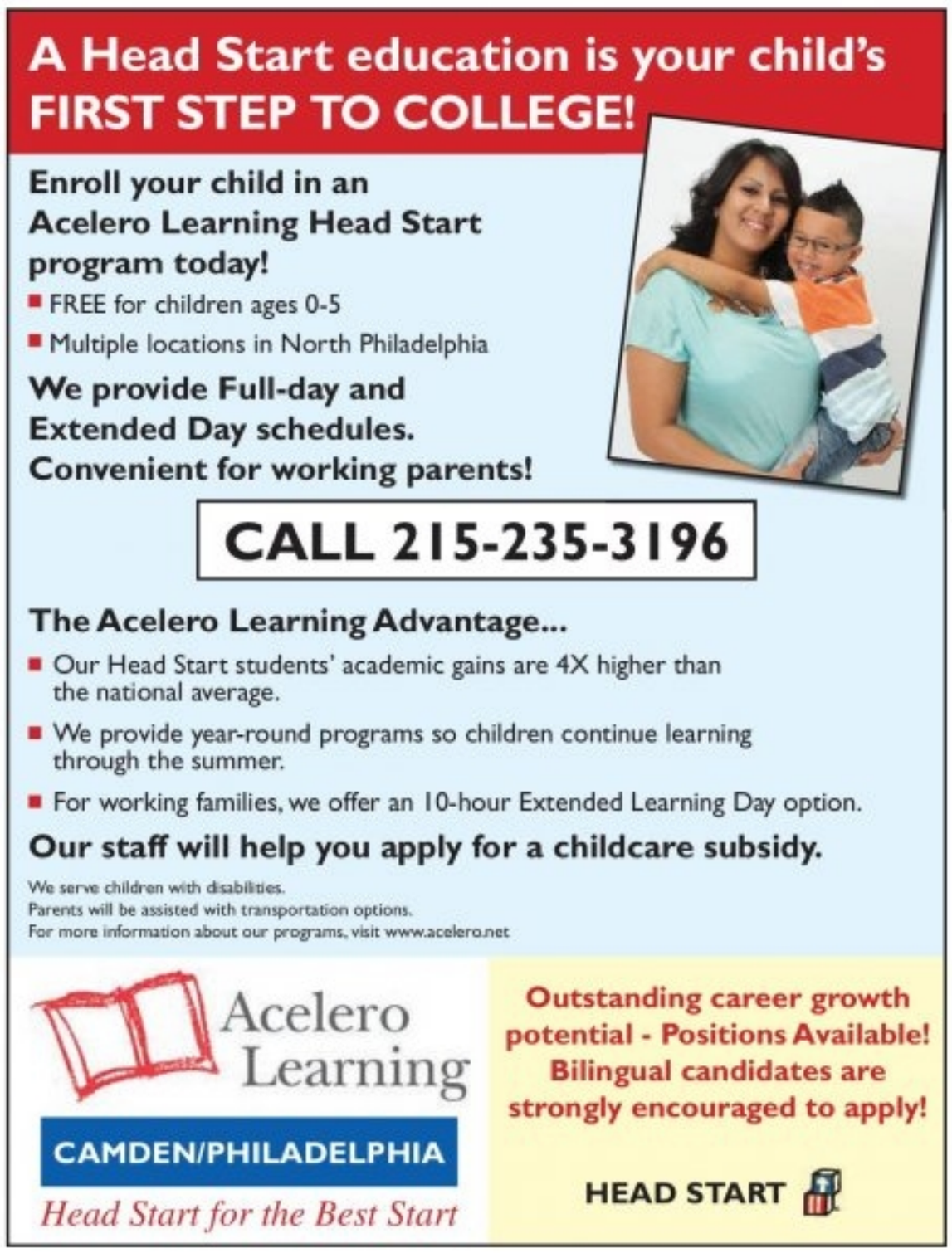
Of employees who commute to an office day in and day out consider positive validation a motivation for doing well

In fact, Upwork, the world's largest freelancing website, found in its "Future of the Workplace" reports that nearly 63% of all companies in the U.S. now have remote workers. This is almost two-thirds of the country's workforce. So it is more important than ever for employers to understand how to connect with employees, no matter where they are.

"We know that people would like to feel valued and appreciated at work," explains Dr. White, "We have to self-motivate ourselves, but at some point it's nice to know that someone appreciates what you do.

"Unfortunately most people don't feel appreciated. Some research shows that 65% of the workforce say they haven't heard anything positive back about their work in the last 12 months. Another study showed that 79% of people who leave voluntarily or quit site that lack of appreciation was one of the main reasons why they leave."

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**The Pick: CLEVELAND (8/1)**

**MORE ODDS AT METROBET.US**

Nick Foles and the Eagles were inconsistent on Sunday. GETTY IMAGES

# 3 Takeaways from Eagles-Buccaneers

The Eagles could not stand the heat in Tampa Bay.

JOVAN ALFORD
jovan.alford@metro.us


Despite a late second-half comeback from the defending Super Bowl champion Philadelphia Eagles, they could not get the job done on Sunday afternoon against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

The Bucs beat the Eagles in all three phases of the game en route to a 27-21 victory.

Philly shot themselves in the foot early on with penalties and simply did not execute on both sides of the ball.

It was certainly not one of their best outings as quarterback Nick Foles could not get comfortable in the pocket, but still delivered a solid performance.

Here are a few more takeaways from the Eagles' first loss of the 2018 season.

## 1. DEFENSE BENDS AND BREAKS IN SOME ASPECTS

After giving up 169 receiving yards to Falcons wide receiver Julio Jones and not allowing him to score a touchdown last week, the Eagles' defense faced another tall task on Sunday against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers' offense.

On the Bucs' first offensive play of the game, quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick punched the Eagles' defense in the mouth, hitting wide receiver DeSean Jackson for a 75-yard touchdown pass.

However, Philly's defense adjusted to what the Buccaneers were doing on offense and began applying pressure to Fitzpatrick. Eventually, they were able to get an interception late in the first quarter, thanks to cornerback Ronald Darby.

But the Buccaneers' offense struck again late in the second quarter with Fitzpatrick hitting second-year tight end O.J. Howard for another 75-yard touchdown.

This time, Darby did not do a good job of wrapping up Howard, letting him loose down the sidelines.


*Continue on page 18*

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# Why Haven't Senior Homeowners Been Told These Facts?

## Keep reading if you own a home in the U.S. and were born before 1955.

It's a well-known fact that for many senior citizens in the U.S. their home is their single biggest asset, often accounting for more than 50% of their total net worth.

Yet, according to new statistics from the mortgage industry, senior homeowners in the U.S. are now sitting on more than **6.1 trillion dollars** of unused home equity.[1] With people now living longer than ever before and home prices back up again, ignoring this **"hidden wealth"** may prove to be short sighted.

All things considered, it's not surprising that more than a million homeowners have already used a government-insured Home Equity Conversion Mortgage or "HECM" loan to turn their home equity into extra cash for retirement.

However, today, there are still millions of eligible homeowners who could benefit from this FHA-insured loan but may simply not be aware of this "**retirement secret.**"

Some homeowners think HECM loans sound "too good to be true." After all, you get the cash you need out of your home but you have no more monthly mortgage payments.

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Another fact many are not aware of is that HECM reverse mortgages first took hold when President Reagan signed the FHA Reverse Mortgage Bill into law 29 years ago in order to help senior citizens remain in their homes.

Today, HECM loans are simply an effective way for homeowners 62 and older to get the extra cash they need to enjoy retirement.

Although today's HECM loans have been improved to provide even greater financial protection for homeowners, there are still many misconceptions.

For example, a lot of people mistakenly believe the home must be paid off in full in order to qualify for a HECM loan, which is not the case. In fact, one key advantage of a HECM is that the proceeds will first be used to pay off any existing liens on the property, which frees up cash flow, a huge blessing for seniors living on a fixed income. Unfortunately, many senior homeowners who might be better off with HECM loan don't even bother to get more information because of rumors they've heard.

That's a shame because HECM loans are helping many senior homeowners live a better life.

In fact, a recent survey by American Advisors Group (AAG), the nation's number one HECM lender, found that over 90% of their clients are satisfied with their loans.

While these special loans are not for everyone, they can be a real lifesaver for senior homeowners.

**FACT:** In 1988, President Reagan signed an FHA bill that put HECM loans into law.

The cash from a HECM loan can be used for any purpose. Many people use the money to save on interest charges by paying off credit cards or other high-interest loans. Other common uses include making home improvements, paying off medical bills or helping other family members. Some people simply need the extra cash for everyday expenses while others are now using it as a "safety net" for financial emergencies.

If you're a homeowner age 62 or older, you owe it to yourself to learn more so that you can make an informed decision. Homeowners who are interested in learning more can request a free 2018 HECM loan Information Kit and free Educational DVD by calling American Advisors Group toll-free at **1-(800) 957-4776.**

At no cost or obligation, the professionals at AAG can help you find out if you qualify and also answer common questions such as:

1. What's the government's role?
2. How much money might I get?
3. Who owns the home after I take out a HECM loan?

You may be pleasantly surprised by what you discover when you call AAG for more information today.

[1]Source: http://reversemortgagedaily.com/2016/06/21/seniors-home-equity-grows-to-6-trillion-reverse-mortgage-opportunity. [2]If you qualify and your loan is approved, a Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) must pay off any existing mortgage(s). With a HECM loan, no monthly mortgage payment is required. A HECM increases the principal mortgage loan amount and decreases home equity (it is a negative amortization loan). AAG works with other lenders and financial institutions that offer HECMs. To process your request for a loan, AAG may forward your contact information to such lenders for your consideration of HECM programs that they offer. When the loan is due and payable, some or all of the equity in the property no longer belongs to borrowers, who may need to sell the home or otherwise repay the loan with interest from other proceeds. AAG charges an origination fee, mortgage insurance premium, closing costs and servicing fees (added to the balance of the loan). The balance of the loan grows over time and AAG charges interest on the balance. Interest is not tax-deductible until the loan is partially or fully repaid. Borrowers are responsible for paying property taxes and homeowner's insurance (which may be substantial). We do not establish an escrow account for disbursements of these payments. A set-aside account can be set up to pay taxes and insurance and may be required in some cases. Borrowers must occupy home as their primary residence and pay for ongoing maintenance; otherwise the loan becomes due and payable. The loan also becomes due and payable when the last borrower, or eligible non-borrowing surviving spouse, dies, sells the home, permanently moves out, defaults on taxes or insurance payments, or does not otherwise comply with the loan terms. American Advisors Group (AAG) is headquartered at 3800 W. Chapman Ave., 3rd & 7th Floors, Orange CA, 92868. (Licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Banking 28356),. V2017.08.23_OR

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# 3 Takeaways from Eagles-Bucs (cont.)

DeSean Jackson (11) burned his former team in the Bucs' win. GETTY IMAGES

It was a consistent theme throughout the day as the Eagles' defense mirrored the New Orleans Saints' from last week.

They could not get an ample amount of pressure on Fitzpatrick, who completed an efficient 82 percent of his passes for 402 yards, four touchdowns, and an interception.

### 2. INJURIES

Coming into this game, there was a lot of the attention on who might not be playing for Tampa Bay. Even though the Bucs were without their starting two cornerbacks, defensive end Jason Pierre-Paul and DeSean Jackson played and left their respective impacts on the game.

However, the injury bug hit the Eagles hard in the first half, with running back Jay Ajayi, left tackle Jason Peters, and wide receiver Mike Wallace all suffering injuries.

Ajayi was the only one to return and had some minor success with a rushing touchdown to end the third quarter.

Also, it did not help that the Eagles were without veteran running back Darren Sproles, who did not practice on Friday with a hamstring injury.

It should be interesting to see what the status will be on Peters and Wallace for next Sunday's game against the Indianapolis Colts.

### 3. INCONSISTENT OFFENSE

As previously mentioned, Foles had a solid performance against the Buccaneers. The veteran quarterback completed 73 percent of his passes for 334 yards and a touchdown.

While Foles' numbers looked good this week in comparison to what he did last week against the Atlanta Falcons, the offense as a whole still did not create many big plays.

Tight end Zach Ertz had a couple of good moments against Tampa Bay, where he had 11 receptions (13 targets) for 94 yards.

Outside of Ertz, Agholor had a great game with eight receptions for 88 yards and a touchdown reception. Agholor was the best wide receiver on the field for the Eagles and the only one that seemed to get open.

However, the running game could not get going with Clement only rushing for 30 yards, Smallwood racking up 28 yards, and Ajayi only getting a modest 23 yards.

Simply put, Philly's ground game needs to be better and that falls on the running backs and the offensive line.

It doesn't matter who is under center for the Eagles as for them to be successful, they need to establish a threat on the ground. If you have an effective running game, it opens up things in the passing game and vice versa.

For a Buccaneers' defense that got torched for 40 points last week, the Eagles' offense did not do a good job of exploiting their weaknesses.


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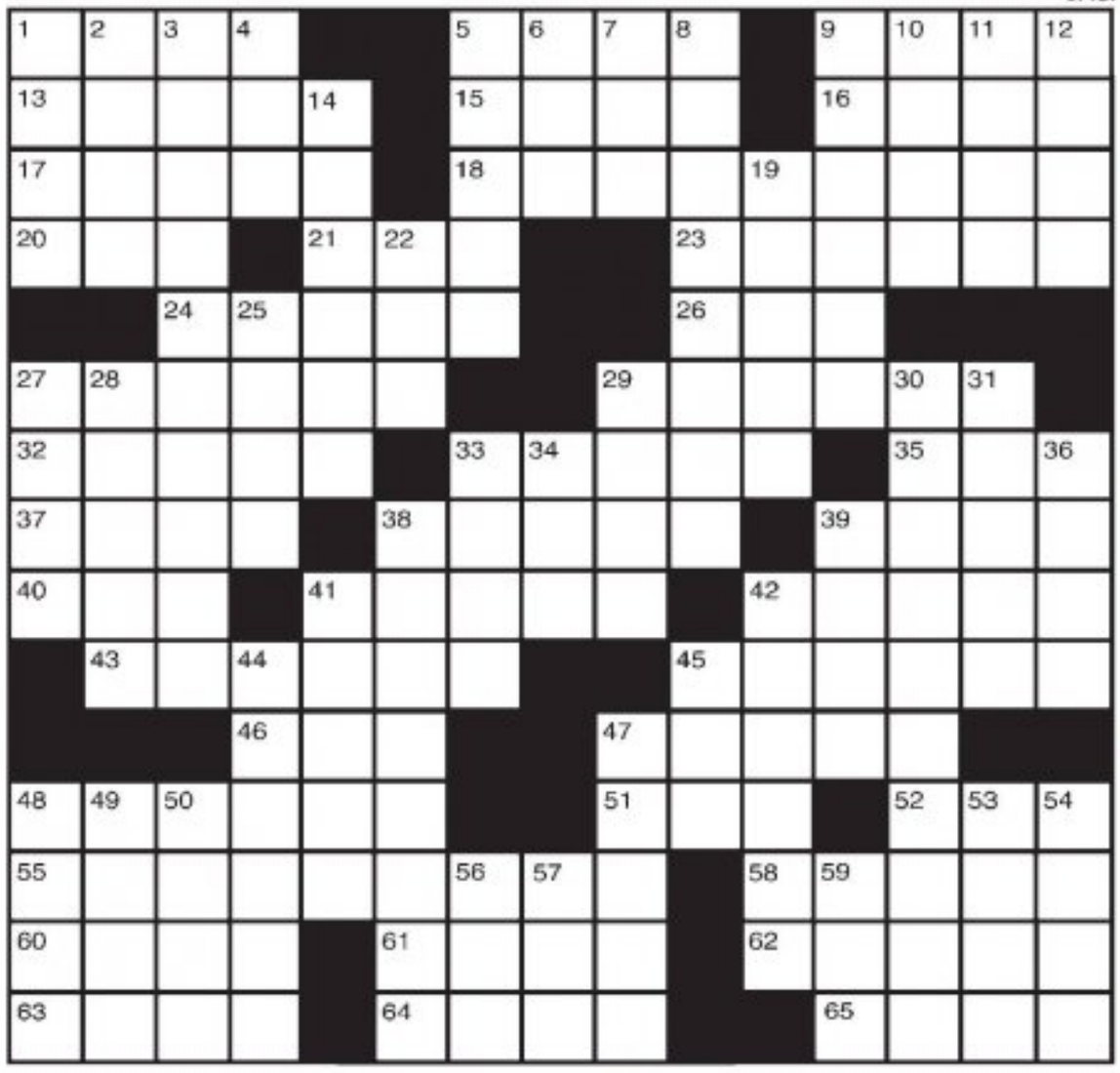

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### ACROSS

1 In __ than no time; very quickly
5 Emulates Jean-Claude Killy
9 Urge forward
13 Boxer __ De La Hoya
15 Gave, but expected back
16 Out of __; misbehaving
17 Give one's views
18 Stupidity
20 90 degrees from WNW
21 Depressed
23 __ up; prepare to kiss
24 Lasso's end
26 Lemon meringue __
27 Iron and tin
29 At __; haphazardly
32 Similar
33 Boasts
35 Dyer's tub
37 Velvety green ground cover
38 Portion
39 Go out with
40 Isn't __ to; probably won't
41 Easy to access
42 Powerful winds
43 Grade-school compositions
45 Bits of gossip
46 That fellow
47 Tribal leader
48 Bitter conflict
51 Decay
52 Actress Wray
55 Foul language
58 Barcelona buddy
60 Vienna's nation: abbr.
61 Ensnare
62 Happen again
63 Pegs for Palmer
64 Current calendar pg.
65 Computer tech, perhaps

### DOWN

1 Crazy as a __
2 Sports channel
3 Biologists & chemists
4 Word with Juan or Antonio
5 Piece of playground equipment
6 Beer barrel
7 Hotel
8 Work __; strike
9 Situated
10 Skater's oval
11 __ in a blue moon; seldom
12 Forest creature
14 Install new shoe bottoms
19 In __; destroyed
22 Pack animal
25 Shade trees
27 May honoree
28 Wed secretly
29 Risqué
30 Trump's workroom
31 Alma __; one's old school
33 Canisters
34 Scarlet or ruby
36 "__ of the d'Urbervilles"
38 Remittances sent in
39 British title
41 Large Israeli port city
42 Stringed instrument
44 Changes gears
45 Greek letter
47 Burial chamber
48 Argument
49 Word of agreement
50 Late Kennedy matriarch
53 Malarial fever
54 New __ City
56 Anger
57 Touch lightly
59 Nickname for Margaret

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